

January 2018

Resolve to Get Rid of Resolutions

For many, the new year brings an opportunity to start fresh and the idea that anything is possible. We make resolutions to achieve new goals at work and at home, stop procrastinating, eat healthier, exercise more, be nicer to others, and so on. Yet how many of us set completely unachievable expectations of ourselves and are left wondering why we abandon our resolutions by February?

This year, let's resolve to get rid of resolutions and instead set goals that we can realistically attain. I challenge you to choose ONE actionable item that you can execute this calendar year within your Lodge, community, or the greater Order. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Share your pride in being an Elk by recruiting and installing a new member
- Volunteer to chair a committee or event within your Lodge
- Run for an officer position within your Lodge this coming March
- Seek out a new charitable initiative for your Lodge to support in your community
- Master the Elk ritual process and help strengthen your Lodge's ritual performance

I hope these ideas spark a desire to make a difference in your community and work together with your fellow members. If we give ourselves realistic goals, then we're more likely to stick to them and ultimately become a stronger lodge.

As Pat and I get back on the road again this month, another one of my goals for the remaining year is to promote our 150 years of Elkdom. As we get closer to our annual reunion in July in San Antonio, Texas, I challenge each of you to bring your great works of Elkdom into your local communities.

I look forward to hearing and reading about the ways you are strengthening Elkdom as we continue this journey together.